

BLAST IN POWER HOUSE KILLS TEN

WRECKS STRUCTURE AND TEARS OUT WINDOWS AND DOORS OF NEARBY BUILDINGS.

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHT ARE HURT

Cause of Tragedy Seems Traceable to Clipping Off of Gas Feed Pipe by Electric Train Which Got Beyond Control.

DEATH LIST IN EXPLOSION.

Officer, Miss Edyth, secretary to Editor Cosmopolitan Magazine, killed by force of explosion against a trolley car and instantly killed.

Pope, Miss Mary, teacher in a private school, killed instantly by beam from wrecked building hurled through window of trolley car in which she was riding.

Galuchi, Nicola, laborer, employed by New York Central, instantly killed while at work in railroad yards.

Livmore, V. B., Inspector New York Central, instantly killed by force of explosion throwing him against a stalled car.

McMorrow, employe New York Central, instantly killed while at work near scene of explosion.

Roberts, Charles, driver Adams Express, killed while making deliveries on Lexington avenue, near explosion.

Stagg, Thomas, watchman New York Central, killed while in shanty at side of wrecked power house.

Unidentified man about 25 years old, evidently a laborer New York Central.

Man New York Central, killed.

Mordan, Patrick, track form New York Central, killed by concussion while standing in railroad yards.

New York City.—A terrific explosion blew up a power house of the New York Central railroad at Fifth street and Lexington avenue, causing the death of two women and eight men and the injury of 108 more. In various hospitals where victims of calamity were taken there were fears that a dozen more would die, swelling the death list to over 20.

The effect of the explosion was felt for a radius of ten blocks. It tore out the windows and doors of buildings on all surrounding streets. As far south as Forty-fourth street and up Fifty-fourth street and from Madison and Third avenues windows were broken and plaster knocked from walls. When the explosion occurred the whole power house shook as though an earthquake was at work under it. A hole was blown through the lower floor, and the walls facing on Fifth street and on Lexington avenue were torn out. A mass of twisted timbers, pipes and bricks tumbled into the street. Huge timbers were tossed about and crashed into windows opposite. High up in the air went the roof, all in fragments, and sailed along to drop into the streets or to dent tops of houses.

Early morning shoppers in the neighborhood stores were thrown against counters. Goods rattled down from shelves as glass from broken windows sprinkled around. Everywhere within the zone of the explosion there were scenes of wild confusion. Men and women with cut and bleeding faces and hands, some with more serious injuries, were to be seen in all directions. The streets were littered with debris. No one knew what had happened. The railroad power house stood with its walls punched out, its roof gone, the bricks and concrete that had kept it together in an immense mass in Fifth street. Flames came from the bottom of the heap in the railroad yards 40 feet below the street level and hissing steam from the broken pipes. The air was heavy with fumes of gas. A spout of flame poured from the broken gas main.

A northbound Lexington Avenue trolley car filled with passengers reached the corner of Fifth street just as the explosion occurred. The car was lifted and hurled over the southbound track. As it went over through the air the passengers were tossed into heaps. Miss Mary Pope was sitting in the car when a scintilla flew through the window, striking her on the head and killing her instantly. Others in the car were cut by flying glass and by pieces of jagged wood.

So far as the investigation by the police and Coroner Holthausen has progressed, the cause of the tragedy seemed traceable to the clipping off of a three inch gas feed pipe running into the lower basement of the power house. This pipe was broken by an electric train which had got away from the control of Motorman Albert Seagrout. The train tore away a buffer at the base of the power house and the escaping gas was ignited half an hour later. The gas had filled the structure which rose three stories above the street. Exactly how the spark that started the explosion was generated is problematical.

Man Is Slain, Wife Arrested. Detroit, Mich.—Francis Kniffen was found dead in bed with his head split open, at his home, 375 Le May avenue. His widow Nellie Kniffen, who was taken into custody by the police, gave the neighbors their first report of the tragedy. She said that she was occupying a bedroom in another part of the house when she was awakened by her husband's groaning and found him in a dying condition when she reached his bedside. A bloody axe was found in the woodshed. Friends think Mrs. Kniffen is insane.

THREATENS TO KILL SELF

MAN HELD PRISONER ON BOAT TALKS TO CONSUL.

Makes Partial Confession of Having Stolen 4,000 Francs From the Greek Army.

New York City.—Capt. Nektos Simopoulos, alias Spyres Soumas, who is a prisoner on board the steamer Themistocles of the Greek line, charged with having stolen 4,000 francs from the Greek army, in which he is an officer, made a partial confession to D. N. Botassi, the consul, and threatened to kill himself if he was not liberated. The Themistocles sailed December 20 with prisoner for Palermo, Italy, and thence to Greece on the return voyage. It was declared here that the case did not come within the province of the local immigration authorities. Captain Simopoulos is 52 years of age and badly crippled with rheumatism.

"There can be no doubt that we have got the right man, as he has confessed his identity," said Consul Botassi. "As soon as I approached him he began to plead that he be permitted to escape. He said that he was old and the father of a family of six children, who would be compelled to leave the country on account of the disgrace if he went back and was sent to prison."

UNCLE SAM BANKER JANUARY 3

Will Open One Office in Each State and Territory for Experimenting Postal Savings.

Washington, D. C.—The first deposits will be received by postal savings banks on January 3. The offices are to be located at Globe, Ariz.; Oroville, Cal.; Leadville, Col.; Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Anaconda, Mont.; Carson City, Nev.; Raton, N. M.; Klamath Falls, Ore.; Provo, Utah; Port Arthur, Tex.; Olympia, Wash.; Lamarie, Wyo.; Bessemer, Ala.; Stuttgart, Ark.; Ansonia, Conn.; Dover, Del.; Key West, Fla.; Brunswick, Ga.; Pekin, Ill.; Princeton, Ind.; Dacorum, Ia.; Pittsburg, Kan.; Middleboro, Ky.; New Iberia, La.; Rumford, Me.; Frostburg, Md.; Norwood, Mass.; Houghton, Mich.; Mendota, Minn.; Gulf Port, Miss.; Carthage, Mo.; Nebraska City, Neb.; Berlin, N. H.; Rutherford, N. J.; Cohoes, N. Y.; Salisbury, N. C.; Waukegan, N. D.; Ashtabula, Ohio; Guyton, Okla.; Dubois, Pa.; Bristol, R. I.; Newberry, S. C.; Deadwood, S. D.; Johnson City, Tenn.; Montpelier, Vt.; Clifton Forge, Va.; Grafton, W. Va.; and Manitowish, Wis.

CARD GAME COSTS ONE LIFE

Man Who Drew Dagger Has Half of His Head Blown Off in House of Enemy.

Washington, Pa.—William Love, 26 years old, is dead with half of his head blown off, George Broadnax, charged with the shooting, and his wife, as a witness, are in jail. The tragedy was the result of a miners' card game at Marianna, this county. As reported to the police the fight started in Love's home, and when Love drew a dagger Broadnax ran out and to his own house. Love followed, but found the door barricaded against him. He beat upon the door until the panels splintered, and crawled through, with the dagger in his teeth. Mrs. Broadnax, terrified, crouched in a corner of the room, while her husband went into an adjoining room for a shotgun. As Broadnax entered the room with the gun Love leaped for him with a dagger in his uplifted hand. There was a flash from the gun and Love fell prostrate on the floor, the dagger sinking deep into the boards a few inches from the feet of Broadnax.

LAYS OFF 46,000 WORKMEN

United States Steel Corporation Cuts Thousands Off Pay Roll Within Last Few Months.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Ten thousand workmen from the great Pittsburg iron and steel district are either going home to Europe for the holidays or are on their way. While the fact that in this way at least \$1,000,000 is being taken out of the district is deplorable, it is not the worst feature, according to information gleaned by a careful analysis of conditions now existing. It is not by any means certain that more than a small percentage of the men will return. They have said in going that they have received no encouragement to return—that the captains of the iron and steel industry have even intimated to them that there will be no work for them until far into the new year—if even then. The United States Steel corporation has laid off within the last few months about 46,000 men, and is still laying them off.

\$30 Monthly for Each Baby.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Orrel A. Parker of New York has a chance to add to his income if he has babies enough. By the terms of the will of his brother, Frederick D. Parker, who died here recently, which was filed here, he and his wife are to be given \$30 a month apiece for each child that is born to them. The will also provides that another brother, William H. Parker, of this city, be given \$30 a month and if he marries, that each additional child be paid to each child born of the union.

POSTAL SLEUTHS CLEANING HOUSE

ARREST DOZEN MEN IN PENNSYLVANIA TOWNS FOR USING MAILS IMPROPERLY.

NAB CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL HEADS

Inspector Discovers that the Faculty of Institute at Scranton Consisted Mainly of Stenographers.

Philadelphia, Pa.—Six men were arrested by postal inspectors for using the mails improperly. They are Louis L. Rice, A. C. Patterson, Edgar Pohl and George H. Brooks of the Chain Shoe Stores syndicate, and Robert G. Morris and Harry F. Stanton of the Pine Heights Co., a land concern. The former concern was capitalized at \$2,000,000. It had widely advertised. The latter concern advertised selling lots in southern New Jersey which the government alleges are practically worthless.

Abram G. Oscar A. and Abram S. Stauffer of Palmyra, were arrested at Palmyra charged with selling instruments to locate hidden wealth, one of the articles being the "Spanish needle." They were sold at from \$10 to \$15 each and about 1,500 are alleged to have been sold in the last year. Charges of sale of obscene literature through the mails have also been made. The men arrested had the highest business standing. John A. Weitzel of Lancaster was arrested charged with sending sensational letters to different parts of the country under the name of the Weitzel Novelty Plating Co. through which he obtained goods and never paid for them.

Investigation of scores of complaints received by the postoffice department from students resulted in the arrest of the officers of the Correspondence Institute of America at Scranton on a charge of using the mails to defraud. The men arrested, waived a hearing and furnished \$1,000 bail each, were Louis Conrad, president; Conrad Lotz, treasurer; and Walter Bingham, manager. The school was organized several years ago to teach academic and technical subjects by mail, but recently all courses except the art courses were abandoned. Postoffice Inspector Barnshaw discovered that the faculty consisted mainly of stenographers. The school has had nearly 70,000 students in all parts of the country on its rolls but only eight have been graduated.

KILL SCHOOLGIRL AND SELF

Man With His Arm Around Fifteen-Year-Old Miss Found Lying in Snow.

Wooster, O.—Lying in the snow on the arm of the girl he had killed, William Mangel, 27, shot himself in the head, meeting an instant death. Erna Berry, who lacked four days of having attained the age of 15, was Mangel's victim. A school girl, the daughter of William Berry, she was returning to her home after the close of the day's session when she was slain. The murder and suicide occurred on the farm of Adam Mowery, two miles south of Wooster. Mangel, who had known the child from infancy, recently had asked her to marry him. When she confided to her father that Mangel had proposed, the parent objected to her being married. It is believed that the girl's jilting of Mangel prompted the tragedy.

EDITOR ALLEN SENT TO JAIL

Former Cleveland Newspaper Man in Contempt for Printing Censure of Seattle Judge.

Seattle, Wash.—Hugh Allen, former Cleveland newspaper man and at present managing editor of the Seattle Evening Star, was sentenced to 30 days in the county jail, having been adjudged in contempt of court for criticizing the superior court in connection with granting a temporary injunction to the Puget Sound Electric railway. Leroy Sanders, publisher of the Star, was sentenced to four months in jail. The Star Publishing Co. was fined \$300. Judge Gilliam held that the criticism tended to prejudice the public in a case pending.

Receive Nice Christmas Gifts.

New York City.—Accompanying the announcement that the Standard Oil Co. has issued a quarterly dividend to shareholders amounting to \$10,000,000 it was calculated that John D. Rockefeller as the owner of 25 per cent. of the stock has received since 1882 about \$180,000,000 as his share of the dividends. In nine years, it is said, he has received in dividends over \$90,000,000. Also it is figured his equity in the net profits since 1882 foots up \$280,000,000.

Trade Barometer.

New York City.—Bradstreet's says: Increased activity in retail trade, less doing by wholesalers and jobbers, a rather slight slowing down in industrial lines, reduced activities in speculative circles and easier money, due apparently to lessened trade and speculative demands, are the leading features brought out in the reports this week. In manufacturing lines the tendency is toward quiet. Iron and steel operations are being curtailed and over holiday shut-downs announced.

CROPS SHOW BIG GAIN

HARVESTED ACREAGE OF CORN IS 114,002,000 ACRES.

Winter and Spring Wheat and Oats for 1910 Make Good Increases Over Year of 1909.

Washington, D. C.—A crop report issued by the department of agriculture shows the harvest acreage of corn as 114,002,000 acres, and the production for 1910 as 3,125,713,000 bushels, as compared with 108,771,000 acres, and 2,772,376,000 bushels for 1909. The total farm value is given as \$1,523,968,000, as compared with \$1,652,822,000 for 1909. Winter wheat shows an increase of 29,427,000, and a production of 464,044,000 bushels for 1910, as compared with 28,330,000 acres, and 446,366,000 bushels for 1909. The total farm value is \$413,575,000, as compared with \$459,154,000 for 1909.

Spring wheat shows an acreage of 19,778,000, and a production of 231,399,000 bushels, as compared with 18,393,000 acres and 290,823,000 bushels. The total farm value is \$207,868,000, compared with \$270,832,000 for 1909. All wheat shows an acreage of 49,205,000 and a production of 695,443,000 bushels, as compared with 46,733,000 acres and 737,189,000 bushels. The farm value is given as \$621,443,000, as compared with \$730,046,000 for 1909. Oats show an acreage of 35,288,000 and a production of 1,126,765,000 bushels, as compared against 33,204,000 acres and 1,007,353,000 bushels for 1909. The total farm value is given as \$384,716,000, as compared with \$408,174,000 for 1909. The total value of all crops specified above, with barley, rye, buckwheat, flaxseed, rice, potatoes and hay, on December 1, 1910, was \$3,735,464,000, as compared with \$3,971,426,000 on the same date a year ago. The average of prices was about 8.5 per cent. lower on December 1 this year than a year ago.

BUY AND SELL ORIENTALS

Gigantic Traffic in Human Beings May be Unearthed in City of San Francisco.

San Francisco, Cal.—That the investigations following the smuggling into San Francisco of 15 contraband Chinamen on December 4 on the steamship Manchuria may result in the uncovering of a gigantic traffic in orientals, in which white men are engaged, was the statement made by Frederick S. Saratton, collector of the port of San Francisco. Immigration officials within the last month have turned their attention to Mexico, from which they declare large numbers of Chinese have been smuggled. The revenue cutters Bear and McCulloch are patrolling the north coast of Mexico, in the vicinity of Ensenada, whence Chinese laborers are known to have been brought to Carmel-by-the-Sea, a California point. A schedule of prices has been fixed by the purchasers of the oriental laborers, a healthy adult being worth \$2,500. Two thousand dollars is the price paid for a slave woman.

SAVES LIVES OF MISSIONARIES

Chinese Colonel, by Prompt and Timely Action, Prevents Massacre of Americans.

Washington, D. C.—American missionaries at Lienchow probably were saved from a massacre during the riots several weeks ago in the northeastern part of Kuangtung province, China, by the prompt protective measures adopted by Col. Lui, the commandant of the small Chinese military force stationed there, according to details of the disturbance made public at the state department. The American consul general at Canton, in reporting the situation to the department, says that Colonel Lui during the riots at Lienchow on September 15, personally took a small guard to the American Presbyterian mission and by removing the ferryboats cut off the advance of the rioters across the river, thereby undoubtedly saving the mission and missionaries.

BLIND MAN SEEKS DEATH CHAIR

Says People Will Not Support Him in Buying His Goods and Wants to Shuffle Off.

Battle Creek, Mich.—Saying that society has condemned him to death, Rev. Thomas McKinsey Messer, for 55 years hopelessly blind and now in danger of losing his voice, has appealed to the governors of four states to grant him the use of the electric chair to release him from a living death by legal sentence. Messer claims that because the people will not support him by buying articles he has for sale, they have expressed a desire that he should die. As long as electrocution is less painful, he seeks to die in this way.

Lawson Daughter Marries.

Boston, Mass.—Dreamworld, the summer home of Thomas W. Lawson at Scituate, was gay in winter garb and Christmas decorations for the wedding of Mr. Lawson's third daughter, Dorothy, to Henry McCall, son of Congressman McCall of Winchester. Both the winter and the Christmas holiday spirit were typified in the decorations for the ceremony. The large veranda was inclosed and profusely decorated with holly, pine, laurel and evergreen, amid the masses of which there were flying white doves.

AMONG THE -BUCKEYES-

Ohio State News Told in an Interesting Manner

EXAMINER REPORTS.

Errors Found Due to Lack of Knowledge of Keeping Books.

Springfield.—Finding two former city officials short in their accounts, calling attention to bad methods pursued, and reciting that a number of people who had overdrawn their accounts had paid the same back on request, the report of State Examiner F. A. Jackson was filed with the auditor.

Aaron T. Allen, former market master, the report says, admitted that he collected \$379.50, which he never turned into the city.

Miss Elizabeth Lounsbury, former superintendent of the city hospital, is charged with \$384 and no one now appears to know where she is. The examiner states in his report that she did not seem to know a thing about keeping books as they were badly confused and she charged herself with money that had been paid in.

FATALLY BURNED.

Columbus.—Mrs. James Wilson, 25, by falling into a grate was burned so severely that she died from its effects. She had been ill and was brought home from St. Francis hospital only a few days before. She was standing in front of an open fire when she fainted and fell toward the grate, her clothing catching fire in the flames.

UNION LEGION.

Dayton.—Union Veteran legion elected these officers: Colonel, John Henry Miller; lieutenant colonel, John C. Teel; major, Josiah Clump; surgeon, George W. Rowan; officer of the day, William H. Cheney; quartermaster, William H. Champion; chaplain, Patrick W. Quinlan.

Canal Dover.—Leaving a note advising other members of her family not to follow her course in getting rid of trouble, Miss Clara Allison, aged 46, hanged herself. She was the sixth member of the family to commit suicide, two brothers, a cousin and two uncles having taken their lives. Illness was given as the cause.

Salem.—Esther Needham and Elva Sheen, 15, were asphyxiated by escaping gas from a stove in their bedroom at the Salem house, conducted by Mrs. Costello. Their dead bodies were found when Mrs. Costello broke into the room, having received no response to her calls. Death is thought to have been accidental.

West Carrollton.—Frank Baumiller, 59, was burned to death in the fire which destroyed his blacksmith shop in the rear of which he lived. It is said that during the night men had a beer party in the place. The authorities are making a close investigation. There is a suspicion of foul play.

Kenton.—In less than forty-eight hours after undergoing an operation, in which his skull was trephined for concussion of the brain, W. O. Porter was up attending to business. Porter was struck by a freight train, rushed to the hospital and operated upon.

Bellefontaine.—Assistant Fire Chief O. J. Outland was seriously injured in being thrown from his seat while driving a ladder truck to a fire. The driverless team ran wildly on to the scene of the fire before stopping, the other men on the truck being unable to grasp the dragging lines.

Subina.—While the storeroom of the Morford company department store was full of shoppers the draperies burst into flames, which soon enveloped the whole room, causing a panic, but all escaped without serious injury. Loss by fire and water is estimated at \$10,000, fully insured.

GOVERNMENT LOSES CASE.

Fails to Recover for Overworked Telegraph Operators.

Columbus.—By a verdict of the jury in the federal court the government lost its case, in which it sought to recover \$6,000 damages from the Toledo & Ohio Central railway for the alleged working of telegraph operators at Mt. Gilead and Fulton, O., beyond the legal limit, 13 hours.

SECOND DEGREE MURDER.

Athens.—The jury brought in a verdict of murder in the second degree against Jack Tracy, for the killing of Fred Reynolds at Gloucester last December day.

Youngstown.—Mahoning county's new \$1,500,000 court house will be occupied about the middle of February. The building is practically finished and the furniture being installed. It was planned to move into the building about January 1.

PRISONERS ESCAPE.

Young Son of Sheriff Proves Himself Brave Boy.

Lima.—Twisting off the lock upon the inside door with an iron rod, which had been a portion of one of the cell beds and overpowering Sheriff Van Gunten when he went to lock the prisoners up for the night, Spencer Stevens, Charles Collins, William Evans and Herman Berger made their escape from the county jail.

Berger and Evans were recaptured shortly afterward. The sheriff's two sons came to his rescue and the youngest, a boy of 15, stopped the other prisoners from coming out of the door with an empty rifle.

JUDGE TAKES OATH.

Hamilton.—The commission of Judge Ed H. Jones, circuit judge-elect, has been received from Columbus and the oath administered by Judge Clarence Murphy. Judge Jones will take his seat on the circuit court bench on February 9, 1911. The vacancy occasioned by his resignation as member of the school board will be filled at the next meeting.

WATHA FOUND GUILTY.

Newark.—In the case of Montella Watha, charged with murder in connection with the lynching of Carl Ethrlington, the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter. Fourteen more of the alleged rioters are to be tried. Hunting down members of the mob cost the state for detectives alone \$2,908.32.

WANT TAFT NEXT TIME.

Columbus Selected For Next Meeting and Officers Elected.

Zanesville.—After inviting President Taft to attend their next annual meeting in Columbus next year and endorsing, among other things, the Rose county option law, the State Grange adjourned with the election of officers: State master, T. C. Laylin, Norwalk; secretary, Eugene Crantz, Norwalk; state lecturer, L. J. Taber, Barnesville; chaplain, Mrs. Laura Garside, Columbiana county.

During the convention State Dairy and Food Commissioner Renick Dunlap and his successor, E. L. Strode, who is secretary of the state organization, met on the stand. Dunlap pledged Strode his support, and was wildly cheered.

"MINE HOSTS" IN CONVENTION.

On Record For Three Yard Sheets and Individual Towels.

Dayton.—The Ohio Hotel association went on record for nine-foot sheets and individual towels. The Dean law providing municipal option was endorsed. The work of the American Hotel Protective association is commended in a resolution that was passed by a unanimous vote.

Several addresses were delivered, among which was that of C. A. Miller, of the Grand Hotel, Cincinnati, who told how clerks may prepare for promotion. Uniform rates were advocated by A. N. Jordon, of Portsmouth, and Walter Maxwell, of the Palace hotel, Cincinnati, spoke of the high cost of living and its relationship to hotel life.

The association elected the following officers and decided to meet next in Columbus: President, E. W. Lynd, Cincinnati; vice president, R. M. Henderson, Marysville; secretary, W. E. Hawk, Blanchester; treasurer, Geo. B. Warner, Chillicothe.

The convention closed with an elaborate banquet.

Ohio State Items

Lima.—The board of education put the ban on football among high school students. The game will be banished next season.

Martins Ferry.—Mary, the 3-year-old daughter of Harry Wilson, was fatally burned when her dress caught fire from an open gas grate.

Maynard.—Steve Cobiack, a Polish miner, was found dead a mile under ground in the Lafferty mine. It is believed he met death from black damp.

Ironton.—The capital of the Home Telephone Co. has been increased from \$50,000 to \$120,000, to take over the plant of the Bell Co. here.

Lancaster.—While cleaning a corn shredder Roy Walker's hand caught in the machine and his arm was ground in such a manner it had to be amputated.

Hamilton.—A sixteen-foot brick wall at the H. P. Deucher shops caved in and William Reed received fatal injuries. James Cox suffered severe wounds on the head and body.

Youngstown.—Ralph J. Davis, arrested in Hubbard when he was terrorizing the village with a revolver, set fire to the village jail when he was locked up.

LIBERTY FOR PRISONERS.

Mansfield.—At their December session the board of managers of the Ohio reformatory considered the applications for parole of 68 prisoners, of whom 36 are to be released.

Lima.—Joseph A. Dutton, superintendent of the Lima division of the Buckeye Pipe Line Co. for the past 20 years, has tendered his resignation, same to be effective December 31. He will go to Texas to take a position with the Gulf Pipe Line.